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Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/54/585, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 42nd, 43rd, 44th and 50th meetings, on 18 and 24 November and 1 and 15 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.42-44 and 50).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36 and Rev.1

2. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/54/L.36), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996, 52/182 of 18 December 1997 and 53/170 of 15 December 1998,

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as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth, development and interrelated issues,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa, which provides an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

"*Emphasizing* that a favourable and conducive international economic and financing environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the growth and development of developing countries, and emphasizing also that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for sustainable development,

"*Noting* that the benefits of the existing multilateral trading system have not been evenly shared and that progress towards full liberalization in sectors of particular interest to developing countries is lagging behind and significant imbalances between rights and obligations exist in multilateral trading agreements as well as in conditions of market access,

"*Stressing* the importance of full and faithful implementation of the commitments and obligations in multilateral trade agreements to the equitable development and stability of the world economy,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-sixth session, and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

"*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General,

"1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

"2. *Renews* the commitment to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations;

"3. *Expresses* concern at the declining terms of trade in primary commodities and lack of progress in diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions including through improved market access conditions;

"4. *Recognizes* that the substantial improvement of market access to developed country markets through, *inter alia*, the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, especially for exports of goods and services from developing countries, should be a major priority for the new multilateral trade negotiations;

"5. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass, roll back or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by unilateral actions inconsistent with the multilateral trade rules and regulations;

"6. *Expresses* concern about the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing measures which are increasingly being used as protectionist measures against developing countries;

"7. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

"8. *Welcomes* the progress made so far in the preparation for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000 by the Trade and Development Board, and considers that the tenth session of Conference will provide, *inter alia*, an important opportunity for the United Nations system and the international community to make a collective reflection on development, particularly in the context of globalization, to reach a consensus on a new development paradigm whose pillars are growth, stability and equity, and which would facilitate the effective integration of developing countries into a more equitable global economy, as well as ensuring greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in global economic policy-making and more participatory decision-making;

"9. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization, in particular in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, *inter alia*:

"(a) Substantial reductions of tariffs and tariff peaks as well as the removal of tariff escalation;

"(b) Ensuring that resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and technical standards is subjected to effective multilateral surveillance so that such measures respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

"(c) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

"(d) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their Generalized System of Preferences schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences schemes, and in this context reiterates its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

"10. *Also reiterates* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries and to promote their expeditious integration into the world economy, and that all countries should work together towards further enhanced market access for exports from least developed countries within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building; welcomes the initiatives taken by the World Trade Organization in cooperation with other organizations in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries adopted at its first Ministerial Conference, held at Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, including through effective follow-up to the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development, held at Geneva on 27 and 28 October 1997, taking into account the proposals adopted by the Least Developed Countries' Coordinating Workshop held in South Africa in June 1999; recognizes that the full implementation of the Plan of

Action requires further and expeditious progress towards duty-free imports from the least developed countries; and invites the relevant international organizations to provide substantially enhanced technical assistance to help strengthen the supply capacity of the least developed countries so as to help them to take the fullest possible advantage of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization;

"11. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the countries of Africa into the world economy, and in this context welcomes the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, and endorses the call contained in the ministerial communiqué for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for their efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity, and in this context requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue and strengthen its contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board on Africa;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as a matter of urgency, the initiation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the areas falling within its mandate, of the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda to be held in the year 2002, in particular focusing on market access, diversification and supply capacity, resources flows and external debt, foreign direct and portfolio investment and access to technology, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to present a report based on the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on Africa and on measures taken in this regard, with a special emphasis on African trade issues, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under the agenda item entitled 'International trade and development';

"13. *Also stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States, small and vulnerable economies and landlocked developing countries, and to recognize that developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support in maintaining and improving their transit infrastructure;

"14. *Endorses* in this context the relevant provisions of its twenty-second special session on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and reiterates the need for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"15. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, taking into account the specific interests of developing countries so as to maximize economic growth and developmental benefits for all, and the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries, particularly the operationalization of special and differential provision, including the strengthening of the concept taking into account the changing realities of world trade and of globalized production, and urges

Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decisions on Least Developed Countries and on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;

"16. *Recognizes* that it is important that the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards areas and products of interest to developing countries, be maintained and that further liberalization be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members, within the framework of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard welcomes the activities of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development aimed at assisting developing countries in developing a positive agenda for the future multilateral trade negotiations, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide analytical support and technical assistance, as well as capacity-building activities, to those countries for their effective participation in the negotiations;

"17. *Stresses* the need for future multilateral trade negotiations to pay particular attention to such issues as transfer of technology, appropriate safeguards for developing countries, credit for autonomous liberalization, export finance and commodity markets, and in this regard to the operationalization of the provisions under the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement relating to the transfer of technology and the balanced protection of biological resources and disciplines to protect traditional knowledge, as well as enabling developing countries to use measures necessary to implement their policies for development and export diversification and upgrading under the Trade-Related Investment Measures Agreement and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures;

"18. *Calls upon* the international financial institutions to ensure that in their development cooperation activities, the developing countries are not required to undertake obligations with regard to their development policies, strategies and programmes in trade and trade-related areas in excess or additional to those undertaken within the framework of rules agreed within the multilateral trading system;

"19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of and the attainment of greater universality by the international trading system, and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including the application of the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries in their accession negotiations, and also emphasizes the necessity for Governments that are members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner, on the basis of undertaking balanced World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide technical assistance, within their mandates, that will contribute to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

"20. *Stresses* the need for improved measures to address the volatility of financial flows as well as the effects of financial crisis on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries and the countries affected by such crisis, emphasizing that keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming such crisis, and in this context rejects the use of any protectionist measures; at a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the

international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system, and in this context calls for close cooperation between the organizations of the United Nations system and the multilateral trade and financial institutions;

"21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in scheduling and organizing mandated events on trade and trade-related issues, to promote complementarity on the work of the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the focal point;

"22. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration and the contribution of such regional arrangements to facilitating trade and investment flows, economies of scale, economic liberalization and the integration of their members into the system of international economic relations within a framework of open regionalism, enabling progress towards a more open multilateral system, and calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to provide support to economic integration amongst developing countries;

"23. *Reiterates* that, in line with Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Governments should have as their objective to ensure that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive so as to achieve sustainable development and that, in so doing, their environmental policies and measures with a potential trade impact are not used for protectionist purposes, and encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on trade, environment and development;

"24. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment, as well to identify ways and means to promote foreign direct and investment to all developing countries, in particular to those most in need, taking into account the interests of developing countries and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations;

"25. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

"26. *Strongly underlines* the need for technical assistance, including the provision of legal assistance to developing countries, to enable those countries to take the fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, based on multilaterally agreed rules and regulations, and in this context emphasizes the importance of enabling the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen technical assistance to developing countries, in particular the developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in this area;

"27. *Notes* the increasing importance and application of electronic commerce in international trade and the need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to participate effectively in electronic commerce, and urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to assist developing countries and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for analysis of the fiscal, legal and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce as well as its implications on trade and development prospects for developing countries;

"28. *Stresses* the importance of improving the efficiency of trade-supporting services, particularly in the areas of transport, customs, banking and insurance, and business information, of developing countries, particularly in the case of small and medium-sized enterprises, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations particularly the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries in this area;

"29. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide substantive inputs on the role of information and communications technology in trade, finance, investment and related areas to the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council;

"30. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on (a) the implementation of the present resolution and (b) developments in the multilateral trading system."

3. At the 50th meeting, on 15 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), informed the Committee of the outcome of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36 and drew the Committee's attention to a revised draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/54/L.36/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36 and Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Australia, Belarus, Canada, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36/Rev.1 (see para. 19, draft resolution I).

5. Also at the 50th meeting, the representative of Guyana made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China (see A/C.2/54/SR.50).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Suriname (see A/C.2/54/SR.50).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.37 and A/C.2/54/L.56

7. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China introduced a draft resolution entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries" (A/C.2/54/L.37). Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uzbekistan subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995 and 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,

"*Recognizing* that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from the world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

"*Recognizing also* that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

"*Recognizing further* that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

"*Noting* the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

"*Emphasizing* the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours, at both regional and subregional levels, including activities of the regional commissions, in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries,

"*Recalling* the holding of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, in New York from 24 to 26 August 1999,

"*Expressing its appreciation* to donor partners for participating in the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of landlocked developing countries,

"1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;

"2. *Endorses* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

"3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked developing countries to and from the sea and freedom of the transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

"4. *Also reaffirms* that transit developing countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked developing countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

"5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to further strengthen their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and as appropriate subregional cooperation, *inter alia*, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding where appropriate bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit

transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

"6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community and the agreed recommendations and conclusions of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

"7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with donor countries and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize specific consultative groups, as appropriate, when requested by the landlocked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority areas for action at the national and subregional levels and draw up action programmes;

"8. *Calls upon* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with predictable and additional financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, and to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

"9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

"10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to increase its assistance to landlocked and transit developing countries in these areas;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000-2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit transport systems, including sectoral aspects and transit transportation costs, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating necessary action-oriented measures, and to consider convening in 2003

a ministerial meeting on transit transport cooperation as a further effort to address the problems of landlocked and transit developing countries;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other development and financial institutions and donor countries, to seek voluntary contributions to ensure the participation of representatives of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meetings referred to in paragraph 11 above;

"13. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the special problems of landlocked developing countries, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to constantly review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, including by means of a case study as necessary, promote regional and subregional cooperation, build up consensus on cooperative arrangements, mobilize international support measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

"14. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries of the Conference with identifiable regular budget resources for landlocked developing countries so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session."

8. At the 44th meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries" (A/C.2/54/L.56), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.37.

9. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement regarding the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56.

10. Also at the 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56 (see para. 19, draft resolution II).

11. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (see A/C.2/54/SR.44).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.37 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40

13. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries" (A/C.2/54/L.40).

14. At the 43rd meeting, on 24 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), informed the Committee of the outcome of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40 (see A/C.2/54/SR.43).

15. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

16. Also at its 43rd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40 by a recorded vote of 94 to 2, with 43 abstentions (see para. 19, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan.

17. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Israel, the United States of America and the Syrian Arab Republic; after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Armenia and Finland, on behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the European Union (see A/C.2/54/SR.43).

[1] The delegation of Ethiopia subsequently indicated that, had it been present, it would have voted in favour and the delegation of Slovakia indicated that, had it been present, it would have abstained.

D. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

18. At its 50th meeting, on 15 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the following reports (see para. 20):

(a) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its nineteenth executive session, Geneva, 15 December 1998 (A/54/15 (Part I));

(b) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twentieth executive session, Geneva, 5 February 1999 (A/54/15 (Part II));

(c) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-first executive session, Geneva, 1 July 1999 (A/54/15 (Part III));

(d) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-second executive session, Geneva, 15 October 1999 (A/54/15 (Part IV)).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

19. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996, 52/182 of 18 December 1997 and 53/170 of 15 December 1998, as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth, development and interrelated issues,

Reaffirming the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa,[2] which provides an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

Emphasizing that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment, and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the growth and development of developing countries, and emphasizing also that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for sustainable development,

Noting the need for multilateral trade liberalization, and noting also that a large number of developing countries have assumed the rights and obligations of the World Trade Organization without being able to reap full benefits of and participate fully in the multilateral trading system, and that there is a need for progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access, including in areas and products of particular interest to developing countries,

[2] *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Ninth Session, Midrand, Republic of South Africa, 27 April-11 May 1996, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.4), part one, sect. A.

Noting also the importance of assisting developing countries in building their capacity to engage effectively in international trade,

Stressing that full and faithful implementation of the commitments and obligations in multilateral trade agreements is important to the equitable and sustainable development and stability of the world economy,

Strongly emphasizing the importance of providing all members of the World Trade Organization with the opportunity to engage fully and effectively in the process of multilateral trade negotiations and in other activities within the multilateral trading system, in order to facilitate the attainment of balanced results with respect to the interests of all members,

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-sixth session,[3] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries,[4]

Noting, in the context of international trade and development, the ongoing work of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

2. *Renews its commitment* to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations;

3. *Expresses concern* at the declining terms of trade in primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions at both national and international levels, *inter alia*, through improved market access conditions and support for capacity-building;

4. *Recognizes* that the substantial improvement of market access for exports of goods and services from developing countries through, *inter alia*, the reduction or removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, should be a high priority for multilateral trade negotiations, and in this regard notes the needs and concerns of some countries with economies in transition;

5. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by unilateral actions inconsistent with the multilateral trade rules and regulations, including those agreed upon in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

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[3] A/54/15 (Part V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[4] A/54/529, annex.

[5] A/54/304.

6. *Expresses concern* about the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing measures, and stresses that they should not be used as protectionist measures;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made so far in the preparations for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000, by the Trade and Development Board and the host Government, considers that the tenth session of the Conference will provide, *inter alia*, an important opportunity for the United Nations system and the international community to engage in a collective reflection on development so as to reach a consensus on development strategies in an increasingly interdependent world by applying lessons of the past to making globalization an effective instrument for the development of all countries and all people, through which the international community should undertake a rigorous and balanced review of the policy and institutional framework for global trade and finance, and that, in this context, the Conference will provide member States with an opportunity to take stock of and review the major international economic initiatives and developments, in particular those that have taken place since the ninth session of the Conference, and urges the Conference to consider the strategies and policies that are most likely to ensure the successful integration of all countries concerned, particularly the developing countries, into the world economy on an equitable basis and to avoid the risk of further marginalization;[6]

9. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, including in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, *inter alia*:

(a) Substantial reductions of tariffs, the rolling back of tariff peaks and the removal of tariff escalation;

(b) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

(c) Ensuring that resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, phytosanitary regulations and technical standards is subjected to effective multilateral surveillance so that such measures respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

(d) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their Generalized System of Preferences schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences schemes, and in this context reiterates its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

10. *Also reiterates* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries and to promote their expeditious integration into the world economy and that all countries should work together towards further enhanced market access for exports from the least developed countries within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building; welcomes the initiatives taken by the World Trade Organization in cooperation with other

[6] As reflected in document TD/B/EX(20)/L.1.

organizations in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries adopted at its first Ministerial Conference, held at Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, including through effective follow-up to the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development, held at Geneva on 27 and 28 October 1997, taking note of the proposals adopted by the Least Developed Countries' Coordinating Workshop held in South Africa in June 1999; recognizes that the full implementation of the Plan of Action requires further and expeditious progress towards duty-free imports from the least developed countries; and invites the relevant international organizations to provide the enhanced technical assistance required to help strengthen the supply capacity of the least developed countries so as to help them to take the fullest possible advantage of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization; and welcomes the holding of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at Brussels in 2001;

11. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the countries of Africa into the world economy, and in this context welcomes the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[7] and endorses the call, contained in the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 July 1998,[8] for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for their efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity, and in this context requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to enhance its contribution to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[9] taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board on Africa;[10]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the initiation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the areas falling within its mandate, of the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda to be held in 2002, in particular focusing on market access, diversification and supply capacity, resource flows and external debt, foreign direct and portfolio investment and access to technology, and in this context also requests the Secretary-General to present a report, based on the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on Africa, on measures taken in this regard, with a special emphasis on African trade issues, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the agenda item entitled "International trade and development";

13. *Stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States and of landlocked developing countries and to recognize that those developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support in maintaining and improving their transit infrastructure;

14. *Endorses* the relevant provisions of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme

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[7] A/52/871-S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3), chap. IV, para. 5.

[9] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[10] A/54/15 (Part V), chap. I, sect. C, agreed conclusions 458 (XLVI). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15.*

of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[11] and in this context reiterates the need for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to enhance its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[12]

15. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[13] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries so as to maximize economic growth and development benefits for all, and the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries, particularly making operational the previously agreed special and differential provisions, including the strengthening of these concepts, taking into account the changing realities of world trade and of globalization, and urges Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decisions on Measures in Favour of Least Developed Countries and on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;[13]

16. *Recognizes* that it is important that the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards areas and products of interest to developing countries, be maintained and that further liberalization be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members, within the framework of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard welcomes the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development aimed at assisting developing countries in developing a positive agenda for the future multilateral trade negotiations and invites the Conference to continue to provide analytical support and technical assistance, including capacity-building activities, to those countries for their effective participation in the negotiations;

17. *Invites* members of the international community to consider the interests of non-members of the World Trade Organization in the context of trade liberalization;

18. *Invites* the international financial institutions to ensure that, in their development cooperation activities with developing countries, the obligations of the latter with regard to their development policies, strategies and programmes in trade and trade-related areas are consistent with their commitments under the framework of rules agreed within the multilateral trading system;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of, and the attainment of greater universality by, the international trading system and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and also emphasizes the necessity for Governments that are members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner, on the basis of undertaking balanced World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide the technical

[11] See resolution S-22/2.

[12] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[13] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

assistance, within their mandates, that will contribute to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

20. *Stresses* the need for improved measures to address the volatility of short-term capital flows as well as the effects of financial crisis on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries and the countries affected by such crisis, emphasizing that keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming such a crisis, and in this context rejects the use of any protectionist measures; at a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system, and in this context calls for close cooperation between the organizations of the United Nations system and the multilateral trade and financial institutions, with the participation of their secretariats and the Member and observer States of the United Nations;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in scheduling and organizing mandated events on trade and trade-related issues, to promote complementarity in the work of the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and with other international organizations, with the participation of their secretariats and the Member and observer States of the United Nations, as appropriate, bearing in mind the mandate of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration in the creation of new opportunities for expanding trade and investment, stresses the importance of those initiatives being in conformity with World Trade Organization rules, where applicable, and, bearing in mind the primacy of the multilateral trading system, affirms that regional trade agreements should be outward-oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system, and in this context invites Governments and intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to continue to provide support to economic integration among developing countries as well as among countries with economies in transition;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment, as well as to identify ways and means to promote foreign direct and portfolio investment directed to all developing countries, taking into account their interests, in particular to those most in need, as well as to those countries with economies in transition with similar needs, and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations, including regional commissions;

24. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

25. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for technical assistance, including legal assistance, to developing countries, through, *inter alia*, the newly established Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization Law and other mechanisms, to enable those countries to take the fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, based on multilaterally agreed rules and regulations, and also in this context emphasizes that it is important for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its technical assistance to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in this area;

26. *Notes* the increasing importance and application of electronic commerce in international trade and the need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to

participate effectively in electronic commerce, and urges the organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates and in cooperation with other relevant bodies, with the participation of their secretariats and the Member and observer States of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Trade Centre and the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for analysis of the fiscal, legal and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce as well as its implications for the trade and development prospects of developing countries;

27. *Stresses* the importance of assisting developing countries and interested countries with economies in transition in improving the efficiency of trade-supporting services, *inter alia*, through the elimination of procedural barriers and by greater use of trade facilitating mechanisms, particularly in the areas of transport, customs, banking and insurance, and business information, especially in the case of small and medium-sized enterprises, and in this respect invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, in collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, to continue to assist these countries in these areas;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide, in collaboration with other relevant bodies, substantive inputs on the role of information and communications technology in trade, finance, investment and related areas to the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and the developments in the multilateral trading system.

Draft resolution II
Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995 and 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[14] as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,[15]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

[14] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[15] Resolution 51/240, annex.

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting the importance of continuing to strengthen the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours, at regional, subregional and bilateral levels, *inter alia*, through cooperative arrangements in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries, and noting the important role of the activities of the regional commissions in this regard,

Welcoming the holding of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, in New York from 24 to 26 August 1999,

Expressing its appreciation to donor partners for participating in the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of landlocked developing countries,

1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;[16]

2. *Welcomes* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;[17]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to further strengthen their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and, as appropriate, subregional cooperation, *inter alia*, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding, where appropriate, bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly, the outcome of recent major

[16] A/54/529.

[17] Ibid., sect. II.

United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[14] and to take fully into account the agreed recommendations and conclusions of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with donor countries and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize specific consultative groups, as appropriate, when requested by the landlocked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority areas for action at the national and subregional levels and draw up action programmes;

8. *Invites* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, and to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and, in this regard, also to consider, *inter alia*, improving the availability and optimal use of the different transport modes and intermodal efficiency along transport corridors;

9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as the application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to assist landlocked and transit developing countries in these areas, in accordance with their mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000-2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit transport systems, including sectoral aspects and transit transportation costs, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating necessary action-oriented measures;

12. *Requests* the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions to consider a proposal made at the fourth Meeting to convene in 2003 a ministerial meeting on transit transport issues so as to give appropriate emphasis to the problems of landlocked and transit developing countries;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek voluntary contributions to ensure the participation of representatives

of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meeting referred to in paragraph 11 above;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the special problems of landlocked developing countries, *inter alia*, through technical cooperation programmes, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to keep under constant review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, *inter alia*, by means of a case study as necessary, promote regional and subregional cooperation, build up consensus on cooperative arrangements, mobilize international support measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries with adequate resources so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

Draft resolution III
Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[18] which states, *inter alia*, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995 and 52/181 of 18 December 1997,

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries in particular and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

[18] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[19]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

20. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to trade and development

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its nineteenth executive session, Geneva, 15 December 1998 (A/54/15 (Part I));

(b) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twentieth executive session, Geneva, 5 February 1999 (A/54/15 (Part II));

(c) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-first executive session, Geneva, 1 July 1999 (A/54/15 (Part III));

(d) Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-second executive session, Geneva, 15 October 1999 (A/54/15 (Part IV)).

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[19] A/54/486.